

## WALL STREET NEWS

Past Week's Trading Indicates Change for Better.

## MONEY TO BECOME EASIER

Cause for High Food Prices Attributed to Holding Back of Grain for Better Market and Future Uncertainties, Which are Clearing Up in View of What Congress Will Do.

New York, Jan. 23.—Affairs in Wall street are sometimes slow in getting under way, but when they do move they often move rapidly.

For a considerable period previous to the beginning of the present year the action of the stock market, regarded solely in itself and without reference to the nature of the factors influencing it, was such as to begot suspicion in the minds of experienced observers that the market had become more or less waterlogged, and that no substantial advance in it was probable until something of a shaking-out process had been gone through with. There has been in the stock market a tumbling over of speculative pyramids such as has not happened since February of last year. Before recent events in Wall street the prospect was that if business in the country continued to expand relatively stiff rates for money could be again expected within a few weeks' time. But now the situation has so altered that a period of some months of easy money is looked for by the best people in banking circles.

In the English financial community a more cheerful sentiment is steadily increasing.

Business is expanding in France and Germany and in Europe generally. Our country has been the first, as it usually is, to recover from the effects of business adversity, and now that the whole world is joining in this upward movement the prospect for our own local state of affairs is made brighter than ever.

## Politics Not to Change.

As regards the course of political affairs at Washington, which have admittedly been a source of financial discouragement of late, this, at least, may be said that the worst that can happen in the way of Federal legislation is already known, and that the event of such legislation may turn out to be better than expected.

There are doubtless few among those in executive control of our railroad companies who have not long since made up their minds to the fact that some sort of State or national supervision of their business is inevitable.

While a combination of corporations having either for its object or effect a control of prices in any important direction in the country's trade or industry is illegal, yet that a combination of corporations not pretending to exercise or actually exercising such a control is legal.

It is plain that the problem of the high cost of living in the country, or at least in the Eastern part of the country, remains vexatious and serious, and should many months pass and this problem remain unsolved certain leading questions will be presented to the political and business interests of the country, one of these being a much greater and more positive demand than has hitherto been made for a revision of the tariff.

The people of small incomes, the general professional class, and the country's wage earners in general will not be content with a prolonged further length of time to pay such prices for meat and eggs, for milk and butter, and for all the necessities of life that they now do.

A movement of protest against these conditions has already reached great proportions.

## Blame High Rates to Farmers.

Bankers in our city and others whose close in the business world puts them closely in touch with the state of affairs in the Western farming districts say that one of the chief reasons for current high prices of wheat and corn is that these crops have moved to market this year with extreme slowness and that the farmers are holding on to their stocks of grain in order to get what they think will be a much higher price for it later on. There is no export demand for staple grain products at the present level, or at least at the level of a few weeks ago, while manifestly the foreigners have stopped buying cotton at present quotations. Now, what will be the state of mind of the farmers if as the season advances the promise unfolds of a winter wheat crop in 1910 larger than ever known before in the country's history?

## RELATIVES AFTER RUNAWAYS.

Too Youthful Elopers Arrested Before Knot Is Tied.

Wilmington, Del., Jan. 23.—The local police received word this evening from Pottsville, Pa., that relatives in that city would send for Pearl Engleman, aged nineteen years, and Adam Michael, aged eighteen years, who came here last night to be married. The couple applied at a local hotel for rooms, but their youth caused the manager to be suspicious, and later they were taken into custody by the police.

## STEEPLEJACK TRIES SUICIDE.

Swallows Cyanide When Accused of Passing Bogus Checks.

Baltimore, Md., Jan. 23.—Steeplejack August L. Eck, famed as a daring professional climber, tried to kill himself, and nearly succeeded, but is now believed to be on the highway of recovery. Eck is occupying a bed at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he was taken immediately after he attempted his life, and where for a time it appeared that he would not survive.

The steeplejack's attempt on his life was made when he had decided it was better to shuffle off this mortal coil than to go to jail. He was at his home, 20 North Clinton street, yesterday, when he was confronted by Detectives Harry Hammersia and John Kratz with a warrant charging him with offering an alleged bogus check drawn on the First National Bank of Catonsville for the sum of \$80.

The detectives found Eck in his dining-room. When he learned who they were and what they wanted he walked to a sideboard and poured something in a glass and drank from it. After drinking the contents of the glass he exclaimed: "I have taken enough cyanide of potassium to kill ten men."

The detectives summoned Dr. J. W. Schleider, who administered antidotes, and Eck was then taken to the hospital.

Largest Morning Circulation.

## HIS JAIL LIFE TOO LUXURIOUS.

Public Indignant, Governor Sends Man with Pall to Chain Gang.

Thomasville, Ga., Jan. 23.—W. H. Mitchell, prominent citizen, who was sentenced to the penitentiary for six months for kidnapping and assaulting Miss Linton, a wealthy heiress, has been ordered to the chain gang to serve the remainder of his sentence, owing to an outbreak of public indignation.

Mitchell should have been in the penitentiary months ago, but because of his influence was allowed to remain in jail here, where he kept open house. He had a special room, with a private bath, and his wife spent the nights with him. He kept a luxurious table and held receptions for friends.

So much indignation was caused by the favors shown Mitchell that Gov. Brown to-day ordered him taken to the chain gang.

## NEWS OF ALEXANDRIA

## Negro's Head Fractured with Ax in Fight.

## AGENTS ATTEND A BANQUET

Prominent Members Make Addresses at Feast—City Council to Consider Proposed Speed Law for Automobiles—Revival Services Opened at Methodist Protestant Church.

P. Clinton Knight, 625 King street, Alexandria, Va., is authorized agent and carrier for The Washington Herald. He has a daily address in Alexandria for 50 cents a month.

WASHINGTON HERALD BUREAU, 425 King Street.

Alexandria, Va., Jan. 23.—With a deep hole in the top of his head and his skull fractured, Joseph Terrell, a negro, is lying at the hospital to-night in a precarious condition, although attendants say he has a good chance to recover.

He was struck over the head with an ax by Noah Wadley, another negro, it is alleged. Wadley escaped, and the police are looking for him.

The affair occurred shortly before 1 o'clock this morning at the eating place conducted by a negro named "Sidered" Turner, in upper King street. It is alleged Terrell came to the place and acted disorderly. He was ordered away, but returned later. It was then that Wadley was taken to the hospital in an ambulance. His injuries were dressed by Drs. Moore, Kilpstein, and Powell.

A banquet was given last evening at the Hotel Rambley by the Local Freight Agents' Association of the District and Alexandria. Covers were laid for twenty, and the tables were decorated with evergreens and cut flowers. Addresses were made by W. W. Bowie, president of the association; George V. Peyton, superintendent of the Washington division of the Southern Railway; E. C. Joyce, general agent of the Washington-Joyce Railway Company at the Potomac yards; Odell S. Smith, secretary and treasurer of the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company; and C. W. Wattle, local agent of the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company.

Officers of the association are: W. W. Bowie, president; T. B. Bowling, vice president; C. C. Smith, secretary; G. S. Hinkins, treasurer, and John D. Mahon, corresponding secretary.

When the city council meets Tuesday night the ordinance to regulate the speed of automobiles will come up for consideration. At the last meeting an ordinance providing that the speed be twelve miles an hour came up, and after a debate it was passed with an amendment making it eight miles an hour. The measure failed to pass the board of aldermen, and a conference committee appointed then failed to reach an agreement.

Funeral services over the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Skidmore took place this afternoon from the residence of C. J. W. Summers, 501 Duke street. Rev. C. D. Bulla, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Grace in this city, officiated. The pallbearers were E. L. Allen, W. L. Allen, Charles Mankin, of this city; Harvey Carlin and Lewis Carlin, nephews, of Washington, and James Duncan, of this city.

The funeral of Frank C. Spinks, who died last evening, will take place at 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon from his residence, 148 Duke street. Services will be conducted by Rev. C. D. Bulla, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Interment will be in Union Cemetery.

Funeral services over the body of Cornelius Wells, who died in Washington on Thursday last, will take place at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon from Grace Episcopal Church. Rev. Edgar Carpenter, rector, will officiate. The burial will be in Union Cemetery.

D. A. Davis, director of the religious work of the Y. M. C. A., Washington, will deliver an interesting address at the Young People's building of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, this afternoon on the Pocket Testament League.

Revival services were opened to-night at the Methodist Protestant Church, and will be continued for two weeks. Services to-night were conducted by Rev. J. M. Holmes, pastor. Beginning to-morrow night, Rev. Mr. Stone, of the Congress Street M. P. Church, Washington, will officiate.

The funeral of William D. M. Bruin, infant son of William M. and Edith C. Bruin, who died last evening, took place from his parents' home, 804 Duke street, this afternoon. Rev. W. F. Watson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, conducted the services.

Elopers Wed in Cumberland. Special to The Washington Herald. Cumberland, Md., Jan. 23.—Harry Porter, a Baltimore and Ohio Railroad fireman, who is a son of Isaac Porter, near Williamsport, and Miss Carrie Hutton, aged sixteen years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Hutton, of Petersburg, W. Va., eloped to Cumberland and were married. They will reside in Grafton.

Texas Democrats in Row. Austin, Tex., Jan. 23.—At a meeting of the Democratic prohibition advisory committee of Texas, held here last night, it was decided that this faction of the party should concentrate its support upon Cone Johnson, of Tyler, for governor. William Polindexter, of Cleburne, is the other Democratic prohibition candidate. He is said to be backed by Senator Bailey. The anti-prohibition candidates for governor are P. V. DeLoach and Q. B. Colquhoun.

## VIEWS OF PEOPLE ON MANY TOPICS

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT?

## Lee's Statue in Statuary Hall.

Editor The Washington Herald:

In your paper and in others have been recently articles pro and con on the subject of preserving in Statuary Hall the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee. The contribution is made by the great State of Virginia, and the reason presented is that he was a great general and a good man.

This is hardly a justifiable reason. No one doubts the proposition, but that is not the issue. If this is conceded, it does not follow that his statue should be so located.

All the real fame that Gen. Lee earned and to which he is justly entitled, and no one is disposed to dispute it, was earned within and for his "native State" and for the "Lost Cause," whose capital was Richmond. No Union man, no citizen of the United States, no native-born citizen, has ever been made in shipping it to Washington instead of Richmond, where it rightfully belongs.

J. FRAISE RICHARD.

## Robert E. Lee.

Editor The Washington Herald:

When Virginia presents to the Hall of Fame the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee, that hall will be graced by a man who, as a Christian gentleman and a soldier, was peerless in his or any other country, and the nation should feel itself proud to do honor to such a man.

We are all Americans, and everything that can be done should be done to the end that harmony prevails. Americans have proven themselves great in war, and should be so in peace. Nothing tends to make a patriot of a man so much as to be made to feel that he is an inhabitant of a country in which justly "s' accorded all."

Those who wore the gray were it because they believed they were right. Those who wore the blue did the same. There were brave and noble men on both sides, but there were none braver, there were none nobler than Gen. Robert E. Lee. Had the South won, her victorious general would have done as Grant did. The colored brother would have been the only sufferer. But God willed otherwise, and now, when the custom obtains for each State to place two of its famous men in the Hall of Fame, Virginia would stultify herself did she not offer the effigy of that distinguished man, Robert E. Lee.

I congratulate Virginia, and I know that sane men of color welcome the day when the hatreds and persecutions, as the result of a war, shall have passed away. Sane men of color want to help in every way they can to bring about a feeling of good fellowship in this, their native land, and there are many of them in Virginia who would be proud to serve on the committee of presentation when the day is set. We want to see right by the side of Lee, Frederick Douglass or John M. Langston. We also want to see in that Hall of Fame John Brown. Let the whole world see how Americans love one another. Again, I say, that the Hall of Fame will be honored by the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

WILLIAM T. FERGUSON.

## The Government Clerk.

Editor The Washington Herald:

So many lights have been thrown on the situation of the government employee, so many able editorials penned in their favor, that there can be no doubt that public opinion is on their side. Little can be done by the government, and that little will be done by better hands than mine.

Some say "none die and few resign" from Uncle Sam's pay roll. The records of the Civil Service Commission cannot bear out the truth of that supposition. Examinations are rather on the increase for all classes in the service. The country is flooded with free information regarding such examinations.

"Sick leave" is quoted as one of the benefits of departmental service. It certainly does play an important factor in public opinion is on their side. Little can be done by the government, and that little will be done by better hands than mine.

Easy money pushes prices up to the advantage of dealers and to the sorrow of the very many who have neither merchandise, farms, or money. Scant supply of food, as is the case with all meats and dairy and poultry products at the present time, naturally calls for higher prices, consumers themselves putting figures up by bidding against each other, as it were.

Great scarcity of flour in the early morning days of California often put a fifty-pound miner's sack of prepared flour to \$50 or \$100. I know of a time when such sacks of the absolutely necessary went to \$20 each. Of course, speculators took advantage of the shortage, same as food dealers do now with the consumers of the country, and without transgressing statute laws, or any laws, except possibly the Golden Rule.

But the Golden Rule plays no part in our economy. Our banks are loaded, and gold and silver are being dug out of the ground by the tons, while north pole, alps, and book credits all conspire to keep food prices soaring skyward indefinitely. We who cannot afford to pay 50 cents a dozen for eggs, or the same for a pound of bogus sirloin, do not have to grope about for any ent all the producers have to spare.

That the increased cost of food is not due to a country-wide conspiracy is shown in the unequal conditions of communities. Eggs with me were 50 cents a dozen.

## Explains High Prices.

Editor The Washington Herald:

The high price of food is a general complaint, not confined to Washington and London. Before we charge the increased cost of the necessities of life to the edicts of speculative combinations we should consider supply and demand, both of food and money.

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## SKATER'S SONG.

What care we for wind or snow? Though Jack Frost may bite our nose And the cold may nip our toes, What care we? Don't you see? We're as happy as can be?

ANSWER TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE.

Skate down in wall decorations.

ment as applied to them—"high cost of living." It looked as if some one was interfering with the compass. The needle was made to point in another direction. Perhaps it pointed to the next session. Thousands of families hoped so. And the fathers of those families are not getting \$1,900 or \$1,200, but just about half of those "princely" salaries.

The most good to the greatest number, if the increase ever comes. A chunk of \$25,000 on the President's salary is a good thing for one family. But where are the old ideals of "created free and equal" all this time? Give the masses a lift, Congress. You'll sleep the better for it.

ALLEN P. MYER.

## Inaugural Date Change.

Editor The Washington Herald:

In the speech in the House recently by Mr. Henry, of Texas, relative to the change of the inaugural date, objection was raised to naming a certain date of the calendar month, as April 30, for the ceremony, since that date would fall on Sunday four times in the twentieth century. Well, suppose it does; isn't that span of twenty-four hours, called Sunday, as good a time as any for the inauguration of a President of the United States? Congress frequently sits and transacts business on Sunday. We know that this business of opposition roots itself in the soil of superstition, but by 1923, at the present rate of the enthronement of reason, the fair tree of toleration will have spread the refreshing shade of its branches all over this fair land; that by then people, as Whitier said, will have ceased to "pay titles for soul insurance, and giving six days to the devil and one to cant," and be solicitous only that each day of the seven may be devoted to helping humanity in the largest sense.

NAT THOMAS.

## What Spiritualism Is.

Editor The Washington Herald:

Spiritualism is no more charlatanry or fraud than the dishonesty in the customs service represents the status of the entire government.

Spiritualism pertains to spirit, and who ever has the most love, truth, freedom, and goodness—has the most divinity—has the most spiritualism. It is not confined to race, sex, or cult, and cannot be corrupted by any trust.

Modern spiritualism is not confined to any cult. It demonstrates with science the continuity of life and intercommunication with disincarnate intelligences, and offers real consolation when the transition called death seems to sever the tender ties of affection. Her clairvoyants see, and some times recognize, spirits standing by the side of certain speakers, writers, artists, inventors, and healers to inspire and lift humanity into higher vibrations of love and helpfulness.

Many such invisible helpers have been photographed by the side of Lee, Frederick Douglass or John M. Langston. We also want to see in that Hall of Fame John Brown. Let the whole world see how Americans love one another. Again, I say, that the Hall of Fame will be honored by the statue of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

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while the same quality could be purchased in New York for 30 cents. And the same difference was noted in other localities. It was, and is now, the case with other articles. Beef in one town may be 29 cents a pound, while in the next village it may be much higher or lower.

So the rise in prices is dictated by supply and demand the country through, but put in force by the local dealers, who, of course, have facilities for keeping posted on products and demands.

I do not think gold increase has much influence on prices. At least it works alike in all businesses—does not discriminate.

I think Shakespeare's recipe for cooking a beefsteak should come in here:

If 'twere done 'twere well done Then 'twere well it were done quick.

By the way, could we ever think of Bacon as in the kitchen roasting a steak? Dignity and learning forbid! The man was physically and mentally otherwise shaped. He was an ultimate consumer.

ORVILLE H. KIMBALL.

## The Cold-storage Scheme.

Editor The Washington Herald:

And he caress all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to create a mark in their right hand, or in their forehead; and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name—Revelation, xiii, 16, 17.

The trusts of to-day seem to have all the earmarks of the beast described by the prophet, for no man can in this day either buy or sell except with their consent or by their authority.

A bill was recently introduced in Congress to prohibit keeping food products in cold storage longer than six months. If this bill were amended to read thirty days, instead of six months, and then passed by Congress, the price of food would be reduced to its proper level by the time the bill was signed by the President, and God's poor would not be compelled to starve in order to bring the trusts to terms.

Now, fresh meats, fowl, butter, eggs, fresh fruit, and many other articles of food can be kept in cold storage indefinitely, and doled out at the highest price obtainable, but if these products were put on the market every thirty days supply and demand would control the price.

Cold storage is the big stick of the beast, and with it he can "cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."

T. H. HERNDON.

## Time to Forgive.

Editor The Washington Herald:

When a person deserves not only the thanks, but the admiration, of all the fair-minded people of this united country for showing his manhood and independence in a just cause for publishing the letter of Col. J. A. Walrus in our paper of recent date, I cannot help but show my approval of his action by the time the bill was signed by the President, and God's poor would not be compelled to starve in order to bring the trusts to terms.

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